

at least one opening being configured to have a self-acting closure located through the cover and permitting manual access into the enclosure.

2. (Amended) The barrier of Claim 1, wherein the self-acting closure comprises **[at least one opening has]** a manually penetrable diaphragm configured to open as an object or human hand is urged therethrough **[providing a manually penetrable closure]**.

3. (As Filed) The barrier of Claim 2, wherein the diaphragm comprises a resiliently flexible material extending across the opening and having slits therein.

4. (As Filed) The barrier of Claim 3, wherein the slits extend radially outward having a common junction point located substantially centrally of the flexible opening.

5. (Amended) The barrier of claim 1, further comprising a **[layer]** sheet of flexible material positioned proximate to the at least one opening **[which]** and overlaps the opening to form a seal.

5x (Amended) The barrier of Claim 1, wherein the cover comprises **[is formed from]** a substantially rectangular sheet, the sheet being pivotally coupled by a flexible seam at each of its edges to flap portions, **[the sheet being substantially the same size as an open bedding portion of a radiant warmer such that]** the flap portions being configured to overhang **[side panels of the radiant warmer and]** a support framework to create a substantially **[enclosed]** thermal neutral environment within said enclosure.

6x (Amended) The barrier of Claim 1, wherein the cover defines a tetrahedral enclosure**[, the cover further comprising an edge portion that creates a seal]**.

7x (Amended) The barrier of Claim 1, wherein the cover defines a half section of a truncated right circular cylinder enclosure**[, the cover further comprising an edge portion that creates a seal]**.

9. (As Filed) The barrier of Claim 1, wherein the cover comprises an optically transparent material.

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5462 10. (Amended) A thermal and moisture barrier for use with [In] an infant radiant warmer [comprising a bassinet] including a bedding assembly and a plurality of optically transparent side panels surrounding a mattress upon which an infant can be placed, the barrier [improvement] comprising:

a substantially flexible cover defining an enclosure when disposed over the mattress to accommodate the neonatal] infant, said cover having a flap portion which overhangs the side panels and creates a substantially enclosed environment; and

at least one opening located through the cover and permitting manual access into the enclosure.

5463 11. (Amended) The barrier [improved radiant warmer] of Claim 10, having a diaphragm providing manually penetrable closure of the at least one [flexible] opening.

✓ 12. (Amended) The barrier [improved radiant warmer] of Claim 11, wherein the diaphragm comprises a resiliently flexible sheet extending across the opening and having slits extending radially outward having common junction point located substantially centrally of the flexible opening.

13. (Amended) The barrier [improved radiant warmer] of Claim 11, wherein the diaphragm comprises a superposed sheet of flexible material for covering the diaphragm when not in use.

5464 14. (Amended) The barrier [improved radiant warmer] of Claim 10, wherein the cover defines a substantially rectangular sheet[, the sheet] having a flexible seam at each of its edges coupled to said flap portions[, wherein the flap portions overhang the side panels and create a substantially enclosed environment].

15. (Amended) The barrier [improved radiant warmer] of Claim 10, wherein the cover defines a section of a portion of a right circular cylinder enclosure[, the cover further comprising an edge portion that creates a seal with the mattress].

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16 (Amended) The barrier **[improved radiant warmer]** of Claim 10, wherein the cover defines a tetrahedral enclosure[, **the cover further comprising an edge portion that creates a seal with the mattress**].

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17. (Amended) A thermal and moisture barrier for use with **[In]** an incubator **[comprising]** including an incubation chamber[,] and optically transparent side walls having armholes therein[,] surrounding a mattress upon which an infant can be placed, the barrier **[improvement]** comprising:

a substantially flexible cover defining an enclosure when disposed over the mattress to accommodate the [a neonatal] infant, wherein the cover comprises an edge portion that creates a seal with the mattress providing a neutral thermal and humidified environment therein; and

a plurality of **[flexible]** openings **[located]** disposed on a portion of the cover and communicating with the enclosure, wherein each **[the]** opening[s] includes a closing assembly, said closing assembly **[have a diaphragm comprising]** including a resiliently flexible sheet extending across the opening and having slits extending radially outward having a common junction point located substantially centrally of the flexible opening which provide self-acting closure to preserve the neutral thermal and humidified environment.

Please cancel Claims 18-20.

Please add Claims 21-23.

act
--21. (New) A thermal and moisture barrier for use with a specialized heating and humidifying apparatus having a bed portion and side panels used in the care of a neonatal infant comprising:

a substantially flexible cover defining when placed over the bed an enclosure to accommodate a neonatal infant, said cover including a flap portion which overhangs the side panels to create a substantially enclosed environment; and

at least one opening located through the cover and permitting manual access into the enclosure, the at least one opening having a diaphragm providing a manually penetrable, self-acting closure.